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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10 035,165	01 04 2002	Naoki Yazawa	Q67946	1762

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SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS, PLLC
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Washington, DC 20037-3213

EXAMINER

BERCK, KENNETH A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2879

DATE MAILED: 07/09/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/035,165

Applicant(s)

YAZAWA, NAOKI

Examiner

Ken A Berck

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 March 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tokito et al. (US 6259423) in view of Sekiguchi (US 6529255).

Regarding claim 1, Tokito discloses (fig 2) an organic electroluminescent display with a transparent substrate disposed on the inner surface of the transparent substrate, an organic EL layer on the transparent electrode, a back electrode on the EL layer and a mirror disposed on the transparent substrate.

Tokito fails to clearly point out the mirror being a half mirror disposed on the outer surface of the substrate.

Regarding claim 1 and 2, Sekiguchi (fig 21) discloses the mirror (80) being a half mirror of thin metal disposed on the outer surface of the substrate in order to enhance light transmission and achieve a bright display.

Hence it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the device of Tokito with the mirror (80) being a half mirror of thin metal disposed on the outer surface of the substrate in order to enhance light transmission and achieve a bright display, as taught by Sekiguchi.

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Regarding claim 2, the Applicant is claiming the product of an organic EL display with a half mirror including a method of making the device, consequently, claim 2 is considered a "product-by-process" claim. In spite of the fact that a product-by-process claim may recite only process limitations, it is the product and not the recited process that is covered by the claim. Further, patentability of a claim to a product does not rest merely on the difference in the method by which the product is made. Rather, is the product itself which must be new and not obvious. As such, no patentable weight has been given to the process recited in claim 2.

Regarding claim 3, Sekiguchi discloses the half mirror is formed of a transparent resin (51a) film having a thin metal film, the resin attached to a transparent plate in order to protect the display by forming a protective layer.

Hence it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the device of Tokito with the half mirror is formed of a transparent resin (51a) film having a thin metal film, the resin attached to a transparent plate in order to protect the display by forming a protective layer, as taught by Sekiguchi.

Regarding claim 4, Tokito discloses (fig 2) the perpendicular distance from a surface of the organic EL layer to the mirror is equal to or larger than a dot pitch of the display.

Regarding claim 5, Tokito discloses (fig 2) the perpendicular distance from a surface of the organic EL layer to the mirror is equal to or larger than a dot pitch of the display.

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Regarding claim 6, Tokito discloses (fig 2) the perpendicular distance from a surface of the organic EL layer to the mirror is equal to or larger than a dot pitch of the display.

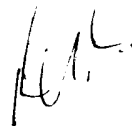
Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ken A Berck whose telephone number is (703)305-7984. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nimesh Patel can be reached on (703)305-4794. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)308-7382 for regular communications and (703)308-7382 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-0956.

kab
June 26, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "K.A. Berck", is located in the lower right quadrant of the page.